

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 beginning on line 3 with the following paragraph:

-- This application is a divisional application of previously allowed U.S. application with the serial number 09/831582, and also claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application number 60/109,613, which is incorporated herein by reference. --

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8 with the following paragraph:

--It is also contemplated that the solvent in all of the solvent streams need not be limited to monoethanolamine (MEA), but may comprise various alternative solvents, including physical and chemical solvents, and any reasonable combination thereof. For example, physical solvents include SELEXOL™ (a dimethyl ether of polyethylene glycol) and methanol, while chemical solvents include organic amines and mixed amines. Especially contemplated chemical solvents are MEA, diethanolamine, diglycolamine, and methyldiethanolamine. It should further be appreciated that co-solvents in combination with contemplated solvent are also appropriate. Furthermore, contemplated solvents may further comprise additives, including anti-oxidants, corrosion inhibitors, and anti-foam agents. With respect to the carbon dioxide loading of the various solvents it should be appreciated that the carbon dioxide loading may vary in the various solvents predominantly depending on the carbon dioxide content of the process gas. Therefore, the data given for the lean solvent stream, the semi-lean solvent stream, the semi-rich solvent stream, and the rich solvent stream are not intended to be limiting.--